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Mitchell Relaxes in New Office Only 50 Paces From His Old

Ex-Nixon Aide Says Raid on Democrats Did Not figure in His Decision to Resign

by Robert B. Semple Jr.

Washington, July 7 - ..... [John N. Mitchell's] new office is less than 50 paces from the office where he ran the [Nixon re-election] campaign..... [He] intends to put in a normal 9-to-5 workday "advising" the Nixon campaign staff and practicing some law while staying as far as he can from the operational details that kept him going 18 hours a day, seven days a week and finally drove his wife to issue her public ultimatum .

..... Mr. Mitchell insisted, in answer to a question, that the five-man raid on the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee June 17 had nothing to do with his wife's complaint that politics was a "dirty" business or his own decision to leave it.

"On the contrary," he said. "If my own investigation had turned up a link between this committee or the White House and the raid, I would have been less inclined to leave. I would have wanted to stick around and clear it up."

He said that his own inquiries "have not produced much more than the private agencies or the newspapers have," and that he remains baffled by the motives behind the raid. But he said that he had satisfied himself that no one in authority in the Republican apparatus had anything to do with it.

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